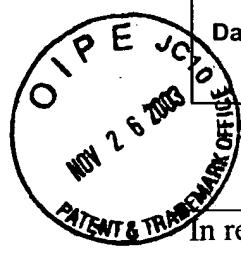


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EL 990 374 895 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Art Unit 1634, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: November 26, 2003 Signature: 
(Victoria Wilson)

Docket No.: 546322000100
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Robert N. RICE et al.

Application No.: 10/081,646

Group Art Unit: 1634

Filed: February 22, 2002

Examiner: B. L. Sisson

For: METHOD AND KIT FOR A NUCLEAR RUN-ON ASSAY (AS AMENDED)

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Art Unit 1634
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 27, 2003, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows.

The deadline to respond to this action was September 27, 2003, for which a two month extension of time is requested to extend the time for response from September 27, 2003 to November 27, 2003. As such, this response is timely filed. Please enter the following amendments and remarks.

10/03/2003 CCHQ01 00000074 031952 10081646

10/26/2003 18.00 DA

SF-1569777 V.3